

# State Board of Education IT Systems

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June 7, 2018 | Public Education Appropriations Subcommittee

## ***Background***

On February 6<sup>th</sup>, during the 2018 General Session, the Utah State Board of Education presented on the current state of many of their proprietary IT systems. The presentation can be found here:

<https://le.utah.gov/interim/2018/pdf/00001360.pdf>

This presentation included a request for appropriations as follows:

1. Restore \$700,000 from Teacher Licensure Fund
  - Set to be swept into Uniform School Fund on June 30, 2018
  - Will be used to update or replace CACTUS
  
2. \$5 million one-time funds for integration and bridging (Link or bridge LEA systems to UPEFS/UTREx/CACTUS)
  - Interface/System Redevelopment
  - Focus on common business vocabulary/data standards
  - Changes to LEA's and UBSE internal data exchange methods
  - Vital/critical component to meet ERP/BI future state
  
3. Total End to End System \$80 million+

## ***Concerns Raised by Subcommittee Members***

During the discussion on this issue, subcommittee members raised the following concerns:

- Spending money on obsolete systems and the \$5 M will not support the development of new systems.
- LEAs have made several costly investments locally for their own systems, how would the proposed new system impact those expenditures?
- Would the transition to a new system add delays to the licensure of new teachers?
- What savings could be derived from an \$80 M investment in the IT systems? What specific staff savings can be realized from having a better automated system?
- What is the true cost of the replacement of the system?
- How will USBE avoid the duplication of effort currently taking place?

## ***2018 General Session Actions***

The Legislature provided authority to the State Board of Education to use nonlapsing balances to begin addressing these IT System issues. This spending authority is as follows.

- Provided the Board with the ability to use up to \$5.0 million in nonlapsing balances from the Minimum School Program – Basic School Program beginning in FY 2018.
- Appropriated \$752,000 from the Professional Practices Restricted Subfund to the State Board of Education – Educator Licensing line item to facilitate the CACTUS upgrades identified by the Board.